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## SHP Erector Spinae Plane Block

AUTH: SHP Medical 332 v3 (AC)

**MCG Health**  
Ambulatory Care  
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[Link to Codes](#)

- Coverage
- Application to Products
- Authorization Requirements
- Description of Item or Service
- Exceptions and Limitations
- Clinical Indications for Procedure
- Document History
- Coding Information
- References
- Codes

### Coverage

[Return to top of SHP Erector Spinae Plane Block - AC](#)

See the appropriate benefit document for specific coverage determination. Member specific benefits take precedence over medical policy.

### Application to Products

[Return to top of SHP Erector Spinae Plane Block - AC](#)

Policy is applicable to all products.

### Authorization Requirements

[Return to top of SHP Erector Spinae Plane Block - AC](#)

Pre-certification by the Plan is required.

### Description of Item or Service

[Return to top of SHP Erector Spinae Plane Block - AC](#)

Erector Spinae Plane Block uses ultrasound to inject local anesthetic into muscle group (m. spinalis, m. longissimus thoracis and m. iliocostalis) for the erector spinae causing a sensory by blocking spinal nerves reducing the need post op opioids.

### Exceptions and Limitations

[Return to top of SHP Erector Spinae Plane Block - AC](#)

There is insufficient scientific evidence to support the medical necessity of this service as it is not shown to improve health outcomes upon technology review for all indications.

### Clinical Indications for Procedure

[Return to top of SHP Erector Spinae Plane Block - AC](#)

- NA

### Document History

[Return to top of SHP Erector Spinae Plane Block - AC](#)

- Revised Dates:
- Reviewed Dates:
  - 2023: February
  - 2022: September
- Effective Date: March 2022

### Coding Information

[Return to top of SHP Erector Spinae Plane Block - AC](#)

- CPT/HCPCS codes covered if policy criteria is met:
  - None
- CPT/HCPCS codes considered not medically necessary per this Policy:
  - CPT 64999 - Unlisted procedure, nervous system

### References

[Return to top of SHP Erector Spinae Plane Block - AC](#)

References used include but are not limited to the following:

Specialty Association Guidelines; Government Regulations; Winifred S. Hayes, Inc; Uptodate; Literature Review; Specialty Advisors; National Coverage Determination (NCD); Local Coverage Determination (LCD).

(2022, Aug 31). Retrieved Jan 17, 2023, from MCG: <https://careweb.careguidelines.com/ed26/index.html>

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(2023). Retrieved Jan 17, 2023, from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search-results.aspx?keyword=erector+spinae&keywordType=starts&areald=s53&docType=NCA,CAL,NCD,MEDCAC,TA,MCD,6,3,5,1,F,P&contractOption=all>

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Rosenblatt, M., & Lai, Y. (2022, Aug 05). Thoracic nerve block techniques. Retrieved Jan 17, 2023, from UpToDate: [https://www.uptodate.com/contents/thoracic-nerve-block-techniques?search=erector%20spinae%20block&source=search\\_result&selectedTitle=1~20&usage\\_type=default&display\\_rank=1](https://www.uptodate.com/contents/thoracic-nerve-block-techniques?search=erector%20spinae%20block&source=search_result&selectedTitle=1~20&usage_type=default&display_rank=1)

Yang, X., Zhang, Y., Chen, Y., Xu, M., & Fu, Q. (2023, Jan 06). Analgesic effect of erector spinae plane block in adults undergoing laparoscopic cholecystectomy: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. Retrieved Jan 17, 2023, from PubMed: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36609244/>

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## Codes

[Return to top of SHP Erector Spinae Plane Block - AC](#)

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